



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

TO THE

Buckingham Town Council

ACTING AS THE

Urban District Council.

1925.



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*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of Buckingham
acting by the Town Council as the Urban District
Council.*

THE CORNER HOUSE,

BUCKINGHAM,

June, 1926.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you my fifteenth Annual Report for your District. This year, I regret, it is late in being presented owing to my illness earlier in the year, which interfered materially with my work.

This year, according to instructions from the Ministry of Health, the report is to be in the nature of a survey report showing any material changes that may have been made during the last five years, in the Public Health Services of the Area.

1. General Statistics.

Area of District, 4773 acres 1r. 3p.

Population: Census 1921, 3059; Estimated for 1925, 2952.

Number of inhabited houses (1921), 887.

Number of families and separate occupiers, estimated

Rateable Value, £19,395. (1921) 890.

Sum represented by a penny rate, £60.

Physical features and General Character of the Area.—This consists of the town of Buckingham, together with the hamlets of Gawcott and Lenborough, and situated in a typical Agricultural area. The Town itself is situated in somewhat of a hollow with higher ground all round it, on every side.

Social Conditions, etc.—The only industry of importance is the Milk Products Factory of Messrs. Thew, Hooker & Gilbey, situated by the Station, who employ about 120 hands. Their products include "Hooker's Malted Milk," Condensed Milk, Milk Powder and also Condensed Peptonised Milk and other preparations. Their Milk supply is obtained from Farms all round the neighbourhood, and is mainly transported by their own Lorries.

Otherwise, the occupation of the inhabitants of the Town is similar to that of any other country town in England, and that of those resident in the hamlets, etc., is in Agriculture and Farming. There is no occupation in your district which is prejudicial to the health of the Worker and there has been no special causes of sickness or invalidity during the period under review worthy of note.

2. Vital Statistics for 1925.

Total. Male. Female.

(a) Births { Legitimate 49 22 27 } Birth-rate, 17.27
 Illegitimate 2 1 1

(b) Deaths ... 38 17 21 Death-rate, 12.87

(c) Death-rate of Infants under 1 year of age per 1000 births, 58.82; there being 3 deaths of such infants during the year, 1 male and 2 female.

There were no deaths in or following child-birth during 1925.

As before, the Estimated Population for the current year is supplied by the Registrar General. It will be seen that again there is a drop from the previous year:—(1924) 2987, (1925) 2952, or 107 less than when the Census was taken in 1921.

There were 6 deaths less than in 1924 and, curiously enough, 6 more births than in that year.

The following is a table compiled to shew the Vital Statistics during the past five years:—

Year.	Population Estimated for each year.	Births.		Total Deaths registered in the District.			
				Under 1 year of age		At all ages.	
		Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate.
1921	3059	48	15.69	3	62.5	43	14.05
1922	3044	56	18.3	2	35.7	50	16.4
1923	3019	47	15.5	2	46.8	50	16.6
1924	2987	45	15.09	1	22.2	44	14.73
1925	2952	51	17.27	3	58.82	38	12.87

The following table shews Causes of Death for 1925 :—

CAUSES OF DEATH.					M.	F.
ALL CAUSES					17	21
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...		1
Influenza	...	...	...	...	1	
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	1	1
Cancer, malignant disease	...	...	...	...	2	3
Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	...		1
Cerebral hæmorrhage, &c	...	...	...	...	2	2
Arterio-sclerosis	...	...	...	...		1
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	2	2
Pneumonia (all forms)...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	1	
Appendicitis and typhlitis	...	...	...	...	1	
Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth	...	...	...	...	1	1
Other deaths from violence	...	...	...	...		1
Other defined diseases	...	...	...	...	5	7

3. Hospitals provided or subsidized by the Local Authority or County Council.

(1) *Tuberculosis*.—Cases of this disease, approved by the County Tuberculosis Officer, are sent to the Berks and Bucks Sanatorium, Peppard Common, near Reading, under the County Council Scheme.

(2) *Fever*.—It was during the past five years, *i.e.* in 1921, that the Council came to their arrangement with the Rural District Council whereby, by the payment of an annual retaining fee and the cost of maintenance of patients when they are admitted, they now have the joint use of the Isolation Hospital for Infectious Diseases situate on the Preston Bissett Road, near Gawcott. Here there is ample accommodation for isolating two types of disease at one time, and for both sexes. The Hospital stands well away from the Public Road in a field belonging to the Rural District Council, and is built of ex-Army huts, with a good water supply and all sanitary conveniences. It is kept in order, and always ready for immediate use, by the woman in charge, who looks after the patients when admitted unless skilled nursing is required, when this is obtained from a London Nursing Home or elsewhere. The whole arrangement has proved to work most satisfactory for your District.

(3) *Small-Pox*.—These cases are sent to the Joint Isolation Hospital near Fenny Stratford, provided for by this Authority in conjunction with others in North Bucks. This arrangement has been in force since, I think, 1912.

Institutional treatment for unmarried mothers, illegitimate children and homeless children, is by application to the Board of Guardians for admission to the Buckingham Union and Infirmary.

Hospitals other than above, and supported by voluntary effort, and in use for the needs of the District, are (1) Buckingham Cottage Hospital; (2) Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford; (3) Royal Bucks Hospital, Aylesbury; and (4) Northampton General Hospital.

With regard to (1) and (2) there is a most excellent scheme whereby working class people, by the payment of a small sum weekly (2d. per week), are entitled to admission to either of these hospitals for any type of treatment without any further charge. It is known as the Radcliffe Infirmary Hospital Scheme, and it is a thousand pities more do not join it. Mr. B. Cheshire, of Well Street, Buckingham, is the Hon. Sec. for your district.

I would add that during the past five years great improvements have been made at the Buckingham Cottage Hospital, in the provision of an operating theatre, electric light throughout the building, a new and adequate staircase, and more provision for the nurses. There are five male beds and five female and two cots for children. All the local medical practitioners are on the staff of the Hospital, and Mr. R. H. A. Whitelock, F.R.C.S., and his son Mr. Hugh Whitelocke, F.R.C.S., both of Oxford, kindly act as Honorary Surgeons. During the past few years the work here, with the theatre, has greatly improved, and its use to the district increased enormously. It is without doubt one of the most useful assets the town possesses, and is very well run by a most excellent Matron, Miss Goudie, late of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London.

4. Ambulance Facilities.

(a) *Fever*.—This is provided for by this Council, in conjunction with the Rural District Council under their Joint Hospital Isolation Scheme.

(b) *General Cases other than above*.—A most excellent Motor Ambulance is run by the local St. John's Ambulance Brigade, towards which this Council subscribes. This has been added to the activities of the Brigade during the past five years. It is most excellently managed and the men of the Brigade give their services free of charge. They are always most prompt when needed and their knowledge of their work is excellent. The District is very fortunate in having this for its use.

5. Clinics and Treatment Centres.

These have remained the same during the past five years, none having been added and none given up.

(a) *Maternity and Child Welfare*.—Held once a month in the Oddfellows' Hall and run by a Voluntary Committee with success. Nurse Pearson, of the County Council, is the Nurse in charge and I, personally, act as Medical Officer. The attendance and interest of Mothers steadily increases and much useful work is done here. Attempts are being made to encourage ante-natal work here and it is hoped it will succeed.

(b) *School Clinics*.—Medical Inspection of School Children is carried out by me, acting as A.S.M.O., under the Bucks County Council and assisted by Nurse Pearson. Medical Inspection is now more than an accomplished fact and as the years go by one sees more and more how the parents of children come to take more interest in it and advantage of it.

The School Clinic for Teeth is in charge of Mr. Best, from Banbury, and is held at the Council Schools in Well Street. The Clinic for Tonsils and Adenoids is in the hands of Dr. Pearson and these children are admitted to the Buckingham Cottage Hospital and treated there. Eye cases from the Schools attend the Clinic at Bletchley.

(c) *Tuberculosis Dispensary*.—This is, as before, situated in rooms on Market Hill and is in charge of Dr. Burra, the County Tuberculosis Officer.

(d) *Veneral Diseases*.—These cases can be sent under the County Council Scheme to the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, or to certain London Hospitals.

6. Public Health Officers.

Mr. Chilvers, M.R. SAN. I., F.I.S.E., M. INST. M. & CTY. ENG., is whole-time Borough Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector, and with myself, as part-time M.O.H., comprise the Public Health Staff of your District. This has been unchanged during the past five years.

7. Professional Nursing in the Home.

(a) *General*.—This is carried out by the District Nurses in charge of the Buckingham District Nursing Association, a Voluntary body, and is in no way connected with the Local Authority.

(b) There is no provision for nursing infectious diseases in the homes of the people.

(c) *Midwives*.—This work is carried out by qualified Maternity Nurses in charge of the Buckingham District Nursing Association, and is very well done. They have a scheme of graduated weekly payments whereby people can join the Association and have the use of the Nurse, at special terms.

8. Legislation in force.

Adoptive Acts.

	Date of Adoption.
Public Health Acts, Amendment Act, 1907	25/10/1920
Part III. do.	1890 22/9/1924

Bye Laws.

Slaughter Houses	7/7/1890
Common Lodging Houses	7/7/1890
New Streets and Buildings	7/7/1890
Cleansing of Footways	7/7/1890
Removal of House Refuse... ..	7/7/1890
Cleansing of Privies	7/7/1890
Prevention of Nuisances	7/7/1890
Keeping of Animals	7/7/1890
Carriage of Offensive Matters	7/7/1890
Offensive Trades	7/7/1890

Regulations.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	7/1/1907
Water Supply	June, 1893

New Bye Laws relative to New Streets and Buildings were adopted and approved during 1925.

9. Water Supply.

The town of Buckingham receives its water supply from three separate sources :

- (1) Akeley Wells,
- (2) Maids Moreton Water Works,
- (3) Gawcott Road Wells.

(1) These are wells sunk in the high ground near the village of Akeley, about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles away, the water being conveyed by mains to the Reservoir at Maids Moreton. This supply is fairly constant, and has been improved of late years, but falls off to some extent in dry weather.

(2) At Maids Moreton ($1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Buckingham) there are two direct acting pumps, driven by 10 h.p. and 20 h.p. loco. type boilers, lifting water from a depth of 200 feet into the 60,000 gallon main reservoir situated at the same place, from whence it is distributed by the mains to the houses themselves. The large pump yields ordinarily 7,000-8,000 gallons per hour and the small pump 4,000-5,000 gallons.

(3) These two wells are situated up the Gawcott Road, which form an addition to the water supply, especially for that end of the town, but the main supply is from (1) and (2).

There is no possibility of contamination to any one of these sources of supply, and the quality is excellent. Analysis taken shows the following:—

Total dissolved matter...	...	...	38.92 grains.
Chlorine in Chloride ...	...	...	1.3 „
Ammonia free of Saline ...	...	...	.0 „
Ammonia Albuminoid ...	...	...	0.001 „
Nitrogen in Nitrates ...	...	...	0.014 „
Ditto in Nitrates ...	...	...	0. „
Oxygen required to oxidise Organic	}		0.078 „
Matter and Iron (in 3 hours)			

Gawcott village has its own supply by gravitation from a well up Hillesden Road and this is satisfactory. Outlying cottages in the Bourton and Lenborough districts have their own supplies from wells.

This is the same supply and has been in use for some many years now and is satisfactory in very many ways and remains constant in wet weather or drought. It has always been the custom, during the night, to shut off (by the hydrant at the bottom of Moreton Road) the supply from Nos. (1) and (2), and rely on the supply from No. (3). This is done in order to save the extra pumping and consequent expense that would be necessary at Moreton owing to the extra use and leakage of water during the night hours. The disadvantage of this plan is that the higher situations in the town get very little supply during the night owing to the level of the Gawcott Well. The Council realising this, especially since the building of Bourtonville, which comes into this latter category, have been seriously considering the question of making more use of the Gawcott supply by erecting a wind engine and pump on Gawcott Hill and a reservoir. There is no doubt this would be an excellent plan. It would not only ensure a full supply all night, but would so increase the daily supply that less pumping would have to be done at Moreton, with consequent less expense to the rates, and also the water supply of the town would be safeguarded against any failure at any time in the supply from Akeley

or Moreton. So far, unfortunately, the scheme has not progressed far owing to failure to be able to come to reasonable terms with the owner of the land where the water is. However, the Council have by no means dropped the idea and the matter is again under consideration.

10. Pollution of Rivers and Streams.

This is prevented by the treatment of the Sewerage on the Sewage Farm. During 1923 and 1924 trouble was experienced with the Canal Basin down Stratford Road. The basin was cleaned out, the water treated with "Chloros," and a surface water drain disconnected from discharging into it. There have been no complaints since, but the fact remains that the water in the basin remains practically stagnant, the canal not being in use and having been allowed to become overgrown with weeds, etc.

11. Drainage and Sewerage.

The town of Buckingham is efficiently sewered, and gravitates to the Sewage Pumping Station, consisting of two pumps run by two oil engines, which lift the sewage from the mains on to the town Sewerage Farm, where it is dealt with by first passing two settling tanks, and thence on to the Farm itself, which consists of five acres, and which is used for the cultivation of mangels, giving a good crop yearly. The effluent runs into the River Ouse. During 1920 your Council acquired another four acres of land for addition to the Sewage Farm, which can be cultivated in the same manner if necessity arises. This increase had become necessary, especially in view of the new Housing Scheme and the increase of sewage therefrom.

The plant at the Pumping Station consists of two 7-h.p. Tangye oil engines and two treble ram pumps, capable of raising 8,000 gallons per hour each. The approximate quantity of sewage dealt with daily is about 85,000 gallons.

GAWCOTT: This hamlet has no sewerage system like the town, the large majority of houses having pail closets or privies, the contents of which are removed weekly by the Corporation's covered cart and taken to and disposed of in a field about a mile away. A few houses have water closets, and these with the waste water drain into a large culvert discharging its contents into an open dyke situated at the Preston Bissett end of the village.

BOURTON and LENBOROUGH have their own pail closets and privies, and deal with it on their own gardens. These are all outlying cottages or farms and this is the only method and is satisfactory.

In the town of Buckingham all the houses with the exception of a very few have water closets connected with the town sewer. In the exceptions it is due to the fact that the level is below the sewer. The sewage in such cases is dealt with by the town cart and taken to the Sewage Farm.

In Gawcott, as stated above, nearly all the houses have privies or pail closets. The Council have during the past year or two considered the question of a new sewerage system for this hamlet, but the provision of an adequate water supply for such a purpose has been the difficulty so far. There is no doubt a new system is needed here if it can be arranged.

The approximate number of types of closets in this village and Lenborough and Bourton (1) fresh water W.C's, 6; (2) waste water and hand flushed 2; (3) privies with movable receptacles, 75; (4) privies with fixed receptacles, 55.

12. Scavenging.

House refuse is collected by the public scavenging cart and removed to the Sewage Farm, where it is ploughed in, and street scavenging is carried out by means of a hand cart and dealt with likewise. In addition to which a water cart and horse-broom are also used, but I am glad to say that the tar spraying of the main roads of the town has done a lot to diminish the dust nuisance, and so save the use of the water cart, as well as rendering it much easier to clean the streets of refuse and manure, etc.

The cleansing of the Market on Saturdays, situated in the High Street, is carried out by the immediate flushing with hose pipes and the use of disinfectant to comply with the order of Ministry of Agriculture. In connection with this I would point out again that every effort should be made to see that cattle, etc., are kept on the proper concrete paving provided in the Market, as it is obviously a difficult matter to ensure the proper cleansing of the roadway of cattle droppings, etc., after the market is over, especially that portion of roadway in front of the houses on Market Hill, adjacent to the Market.

In connection with house refuse every effort is made by the officials to get proper movable ashbins with covers provided for houses. The importance of these from a sanitary point of view cannot be over-estimated.

In GAWCOTT, BOURTON and LENBOROUGH house refuse is disposed of by the occupiers themselves on their own gardens.

13. Smoke Abatement.

No action has been necessary for abatement of this nuisance in the district.

14. Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by Bye Laws and Regulations.

There are now no Common Lodging Houses in the district, though Bye Laws are in force.

There are no offensive trades in the district, and no Bye Laws have ever been considered.

15. Schools.—These consist of :—

- (1) Royal Latin School (Secondary).
- (2) Council School in Well Street (Elementary).
- (3) Church of England School in School Lane (Elem.)
- (4) A Private School in Chandos Road, for small children.

All these schools are supplied with water from the town supply, and their drainage is into the town sewers.

In the case of (2) the question of the adequacy of their Sanitary conveniences has been under review by the Local Education Authority, and new arrangements are to be made. In the case of (3) the adequacy of the entire premises as Elementary Schools is under consideration by the Local Education Authority.

During the five years under review the two main infectious diseases which have troubled the Schools, especially the Elementary, have been outbreaks of measles and chicken-pox. In the case of the former disease, it has been found that, if the first case is reported at once by the teacher in charge, and immediate exclusion from the department, or class in question, of all children who have not had the disease, for the period of a fortnight, is insisted on, then the outbreak has been stopped on more than one occasion. If this fails for any reason, then it is found that all that remains is to exclude (1) all those suffering from the disease ; (2) all home contacts who have not had the disease ; and (3) warn teachers to look out for all children suffering from colds and coughs and inflamed eyes, and exclude them until it is proved if they have the disease or not. In the case of Chicken Pox, then exclusion of (1) sufferers, and (2) all home contacts for 14 days. In the event of Scarlet Fever, now far less prevalent than formerly, teachers are instructed to at once make out a list of all children who have not had the disease, and to look out especially for all children complaining of sore throats or signs of "peeling," and to exclude same until they can produce a

certificate from a medical man that they are not infectious. This certificate is provided and paid for by the Local Education Authority. The sufferer from the disease and all home contacts are excluded, of course, also. In the case of Diphtheria, immediate exclusion of the sufferer and home contacts, and Bacteriological examination of the throats of possible contacts when considered necessary. Whooping Cough has visited the Schools during this period, and here again all sufferers are excluded until cough has ceased, or at least until six weeks after commencement of whooping, and exclusion of all home contacts who have not had the disease.

School medical inspection work I have already referred to. Cleanliness of scholars and inspection of heads for nits is in the hands of Nurse Pearson, of the County Council, and is most excellently done.

16. Infectious Diseases.

The following is a Table of Notifiable Diseases for the past five years:—

	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
Diphtheria	11	1			
Scarlet Fever	8	4	3		
Pneumonia	4	3	2	4	6
Malaria	1		1		
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	1				
Chicken Pox			23	67	39
Erysipelas					2

It will be seen by this table that the most prevalent notifiable disease has been Chicken Pox. It is to be hoped, as the epidemic is now over, that the district will be protected now for some time to come. Of the cases of Pneumonia, six died.

For the year 1925 the Table is as follows:—

DISEASES.	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Pneumonia ...	6		2
Erysipelas ...	2		
Chicken Pox ...	39		

The arrangements made for Hospital Isolation have been fully described earlier in this report.

Disinfection of houses infected is carried out by the Sanitary Inspector with Formalin Lamp and full instructions given as to the still greater value of the thorough cleansing of all premises and utensils, etc., with disinfectants and soap and water, and the importance of fresh air and sunlight. Disinfectants, where necessary, are supplied free of charge in these cases.

No use has been made of the Schich or Dich tests. In the case of Diptheria, in necessitous cases, the Council pays for the examination of swabs, and provides anti-toxin.

No cases of vaccination have been carried out by me as M.O.H. during this period, as fortunately, no case of Small Pox has occurred.

Of the non-notifiable diseases, Measles has been the most prevalent. The steps to deal with this in Schools has been described.

All cases of infectious diseases in Schools are reported on special forms by Head Teachers to me as M.O.H., and these notifications are of great value in those cases which are not notifiable in the ordinary way under the Act.

17. Tuberculosis.

New cases and mortality during 1925:—

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0								
1								
5								
10								
15								
20								
25								
35								
45								
55		1						1
65								
and upwards								
Totals ...		1						1

It has not been necessary to take any action under the Public Health Regulations (Prevention of Tuberculosis), 1925.

The Tuberculosis County Council Clinic has been referred to previously in this report and the removal of cases for Sanatorium Treatment.

18. Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(a) *Milk Supply*.—Your area being situate in the midst of one of England's best milk producing districts is very well supplied both with regard to quality and quantity.

The Cowsheds and Dairies are regularly inspected and their condition is satisfactory and regulations carried out.

There has been no call for any action by your officers, during the period under review, with regard to Tuberculosis Milk or Cattle.

No licenses have been granted under special designations as in the Fourth Schedule to the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1923, and no refusal or revocation of registration of retailers or of licenses for graded milk.

(b) *Meat*.—During the past five years the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, have come into force. These regulations are carried out in your District and your Sanitary Inspector visits the slaughter-houses from time to time at the time of slaughter. He also makes periodical visits to slaughter-houses at regular intervals.

In 1920 there were 8 licensed slaughter-houses in the district. In January, 1925, the number was 7, one slaughter-house not being in use. There are no public slaughter-houses in the district.

(c) *Other Foods*.—During 1925 only one case of unsound food came to your Inspector's notice, a case of cherries.

The bakehouses generally are kept in a very satisfactory manner and the same applies to the Milk Products Factory, of Messrs. Thew, Hooker & Gilbey, Ltd.

(d) *Sale of Food and Drugs Act*.—This is carried out by the Bucks County Council.

19. Sanitary Administration.

Below is given the Tables drawn up by your Sanitary Inspector of the work done during the year 1925.

There has been nothing of special note during the five year period under review, with the exception of the Canal Basin which has been referred to.

SUMMARY OF WORK BY SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31ST, 1925.

General.

Inspections made	...	...	...	...	538
Stopped Drains	...	...	...	...	17
Dirty Houses	...	...	...	...	1
New Drainage	...	...	...	...	19
Insanitary W.C.'s, &c.	...	...	...	...	2
Stopped W.C.'s	...	...	...	...	2
Water Supply	...	...	...	...	2
Damp Cellar	...	...	...	...	1
New Houses (excluding new Council Houses)	...	...	...	...	3
Alterations and Additions	...	...	...	...	7
Houses and Premises disinfected	...	...	...	...	3
Unsound Food	...	...	...	...	1
Polluted Watercourse	...	...	...	...	1
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	1
Defective Floors	...	...	...	...	1
„ Walls	...	...	...	...	1
„ Roofs	...	...	...	...	1
Dirty Milk	...	...	...	...	1
Defective Inspection Cover	...	...	...	...	1

Slaughter Houses.

On Register	...	...	...	...	7
Inspections	...	...	...	...	350
Defects	...	...	...	...	Nil

Bakehouses.

On Register	...	...	...	...	6
Inspections	...	...	...	...	24
Defects	...	...	...	...	Nil

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.

On Register	...	...	...	...	34
Inspections	...	...	...	...	102
Defects	...	...	...	...	1

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

No alterations or additions were carried out during the year.

20. Housing.

The main and most important feature during these five years has been (1) the completion of the first scheme under the 1919 Housing Act, consisting of 56 Houses on the site known as Bourtonville. Owing to the rapidity with which these houses were occupied and the continued demand for more the Council considered the question of the erection of 13 extra houses under the Act of 1923 to complete the original scheme at the London Road end of the site. These latter were finally approved and passed and building commenced on them in June 1925. At the time of writing they are not only completed but are all occupied. The Council can, without doubt, congratulate themselves very much on the completion of this scheme, which has resulted in the addition of these excellent dwellings to the Town of Buckingham and filled a much needed want. The only pity is that owing to the cost of erection, etc., the economic rents have to be such that they are beyond the reach of the average working man, for whose benefit the scheme was originally intended.

Since the completion of the above scheme a petition has been received from Gawcott for the erection of some dwellings in that Hamlet. As a result of full consideration by the Council, a scheme for 6 houses has been drawn up and approved by the Ministry of Health. At the time of writing tenders for the erection of the same are under consideration.

It is to be hoped that now it may be possible to deal more effectively with some of the undesirable unfit dwellings in the district, and your officials are already starting to get to work with hopes of better results.

The general standard of houses in your district is of course of an old-fashioned type, with the exception of the new houses lately erected, though the majority are structurally sound. The general character of the defects to be found are the usual ones of defective sanitary apparatus, dampness due to faulty gutter pipes, etc., and dirty conditions. The faults can be fairly evenly divided between landlord and tenant, as a rule. There are certain cases of dampness in houses due to them being partially back to earth; these we hope to deal with very shortly now. The difficulty in dealing with such property has been the shortage of houses in the district. This still exists, though in a much milder degree, in spite of the erection of the Council's dwellings referred to.

Appended is the usual table for the current year.

Number of new houses erected during the year :

(a) Total	...	...	...	16
(b) As part of a municipal Housing Scheme	...	...	...	13
(c) By other bodies or persons	..	...	...	3

1. Unfit dwelling houses.

Inspection—(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	30
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	...	20
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (excluding those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	... ..	1

2. Remedy of defects without Service of formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	...	40
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3. Action under Statutory Powers:**A.—Proceedings under section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.**

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	... ..	1
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit :—		
(a) by owners	... ..	1
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	...	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	... ..	Nil

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	2
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied :—		
(a) by owners	... ..	2
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	...	Nil

C.—Proceedings under sections 11, 14 & 15 of the Housing Act, 1925.

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	... ..	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	... ..	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	... ..	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	... ..	Nil
Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	... ..	Nil

21. Registered Workshops.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year 1925.

Timber Merchant	...	...	...	1
Boot and Shoe Repairers	...	...	...	6
Cabinet Makers	...	...	...	2
Saddlers	...	...	...	2
Millers	...	...	...	2
Milk Products Factory	...	...	...	1
Bakehouses	...	...	...	6
Printers	...	...	...	2
Builders	...	...	...	9
Engineering and Motor Cycle Works	...	...	...	8
Dressmaking, etc.	...	...	...	8
Coachbuilding	...	...	...	4
Tailoring	...	...	...	4
Gas Works	...	...	...	1
Electric Light Works	...	...	...	1
Plumbers, Painters and Tinsmiths	...	...	...	6
Laundries	...	...	...	2
Blacksmiths	...	...	...	3
Total Number of Workshops on Register				68

This, Gentlemen, completes my report for 1925 and my survey as required.

In conclusion I would once more express very fully my great appreciation of the help and courtesy I always receive at the hands of the Town Clerk and his officials, and the Borough Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector. To the latter I must tender my special thanks in his assistance in drawing up this report, and the willing way he has rendered it.

I remain,

Your obedient Servant,

T. EBEN PEMBERTON, M.B., B.S.,

(*M.O.H. Borough of Buckingham.*)



